

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE  
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 3524  
OFFERED BY M. *PFUGEN***

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

1   **SEC. \_\_. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON IMPORTANCE OF UNITED**  
2                           **STATES NAVAL STATION, GUANTANAMO BAY,**  
3                           **CUBA.**

4       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5           (1) The United States lies 90 miles from the  
6       coast of Cuba, a harrowing journey for refugees and  
7       migrants seeking haven in the United States by wa-  
8       terborne vessels, but a short journey for an adver-  
9       sarial power operating in the Caribbean, commonly  
10      referred to as the United States' "third border", de-  
11      termined to reach United States shores.

12          (2) The legal claim of the United States to the  
13      United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay,  
14      Cuba, is indisputable. The new Republic of Cuba  
15      leased a naval reservation to the United States in  
16      1903 and the Congress passed the Platt Amendment  
17      to implement this deal. The Republic of Cuba  
18      amended its constitution to reflect this international  
19      agreement.

1           (3) The People's Liberation Army (PLA) of the  
2       People's Republic of China (PRC) exploits Cuba's  
3       geographic proximity to the United States by ex-  
4       panding ties with Cuba's communist regime. The  
5       PRC increasingly uses Cuban facilities for signals  
6       intelligence to collect and potentially disrupt trans-  
7       missions from the United States.

8           (4) The United States Naval Station, Guanta-  
9       namo Bay, Cuba, is the only United States base in  
10      a communist country. It is a deep-water United  
11      States Naval Station with active military airfields  
12      pivotal in providing support for military and inter-  
13      agency operations.

14          (5) At 400 air miles from Miami, Florida,  
15      United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay,  
16      Cuba, serves a strategic purpose in preserving  
17      United States national security interests, serving as  
18      a deterrent presence, and allowing United States  
19      Armed Forces to work with regional partners and al-  
20      lies.

21          (6) United States Naval Station, Guantanamo  
22      Bay, Cuba occupies 45 square miles of land and  
23      water.

1           (7) The Detention Center at United States  
2       Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, since 2002  
3       has held enemy combatants.

4       (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
5       gress that—

6           (1) any movement toward closure of United  
7       States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, a  
8       valuable United States military asset, places United  
9       States national security directly at risk and hinders  
10      cooperation with partners and allies in the region;  
11      and

12          (2) as the People's Liberation Army continues  
13      to expand its outreach to Cuba, it is vital that the  
14      Administration retain United States Naval Station,  
15      Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

